



## SHOALWATER BAY INDIAN TRIBE

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554  
May 20, 2015

RE: Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe Comments in Response to Disrespectful Remarks Filed by a Non-Tribal Telecom Company

Dear Secretary Dortch,

On behalf of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, I respectfully submit these comments on issues related to the competitive bidding proceeding.

Recently, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released Public Notice FCC 15-49, which sought comments to update the FCC's competitive bidding procedures for spectrum license auctions. In the Public Notice there was reference to a commenter urging the FCC to reexamine the Tribal Land Bidding Credit Program. Upon further inspection, it was discovered that the commenter-NTCH, Inc.-has made blatant and misperceived assumptions about tribes in a number of the FCC's Docket Proceedings.

In many of NTCH, Inc.'s comments, the company has stated that they question whether tribes, "merit per se qualification as a disadvantaged category". NTCH, Inc. continues to make assertions that tribes have become wealthy through casino gaming enterprises and that, "the Commission should not therefore treat Indians as a generic category of people deserving special preferences in the auction context."

We would like to make our disagreement with the above captioned assertions known to the Commission. We feel this is an unfair depiction of our status as a sovereign nation. We would urge that the assertions made be recanted immediately.

Thank you,

  
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Douglas M. Davis, Chairman  
Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe